

File No. 293

Substitute House Bill No. 5708

House of Representatives, April 2, 1998. The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCDONALD, 148th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) No community health center,
2 as defined in section 19a-490a of the general
3 statutes, with a financial interest in a
4 for-profit managed care plan may require enrolment
5 in that plan as a prerequisite to obtaining
6 services from that community health center.

7 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1,
8 1998.

9 PH COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 20 NAY 3 JFS

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SHB 5708

STATE IMPACT None, see explanation below

MUNICIPAL IMPACT None

STATE AGENCY(S) Department of Public Health

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

Pursuant to Section 19a-490a C.G.S., a community health center is required to make its services available to individuals regardless of their ability to pay. This requirement is also included within state contracts entered into by the Department of Public Health (DPH) with each community health center in Connecticut.

Therefore, it appears that the DPH already has the ability to pursue disciplinary actions against community health centers engaging in behavior described in the bill. Due to this, no fiscal impact is anticipated to result from its passage.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

SHB 5708

AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

SUMMARY: This bill prohibits a community health center with a financial interest in a for-profit managed care plan from requiring a person to be enrolled in that plan in order to receive services.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1998

BACKGROUND

Community Health Centers

Community health centers are public or nonprofit private medical care facilities organized and operated to provide comprehensive primary care services. Centers are located in areas with demonstrated need for services based on geographic, demographic, and economic factors, and serve low-income, uninsured, minority and elderly persons. Community health centers make their services available regardless of an individual's ability to pay.

Community health centers in the state are participating in the state's Medicaid managed care program.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 20 Nay 3